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canv
49. (once amended) The T cell of claim 48 wherein the TCR exhibits a dissociation constant between about 10^7 to 10^{10} M⁻¹ for said ligand.

54. (once amended) A T cell expressing on its surface a high affinity TCR carrying one or more mutations in a CDR.

Please add new claims 104-106:

B4.
21 104. (new) A soluble mutant T cell receptor (TCR) having an high affinity for a ligand and having one or more mutations in a CDR where the TCR exhibits a dissociation constant for the ligand from about 10^7 to about 10^{10} M⁻¹.

22 105. (new) The soluble TCR of claim 104 wherein the one or more mutations are in CDR3 α or CDR3 β .

23 106. (new) The soluble TCR of claim 104 wherein the ligand is a peptide/HMC ligand.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed September 6, 2002, claims 44-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patten et al. in view of Dau et al. and Reinherz et al. Claims 38-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

This response adds new claims 104-106 which derive from claims 44-46 and include numerical values for dissociation constants. The new claims are supported by the specification and claims as filed, including claims 44-46 and page 4, lines 13-14. This response also amends claims 38, 39, 48, 49 and 54 as discussed below. No new matter is added by any amendment, and all amendments are supported by the specification and claims as filed.

103(a) rejection

In the Office Action mailed September 6, 2002, claims 44-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Patten et al. (U.S. 6,319,713) in view of Dau et al. (U.S. 6,087,096) and Reinherz et al (U.S. 6,416,971).